

PARTNERS WITH PURPOSE

Why Riccardo Persi supports Keaton's House



For Riccardo Persi, Business Manager at LiUNA! Local 837, supporting hospice care is about helping create a place where families can be together during some of their most difficult moments.

Riccardo has supported hospice care in the community before and has seen the difference a quieter, more peaceful environment can make for families.

When he learned about Keaton's House-Paul Paletta Children's Hospice and the need for a dedicated children's hospice in the region, he felt it was something LiUNA! Local 837 should be part of.

"To be in a place where it's tranquil and peaceful is so important," Riccardo said. "Especially when you're dealing with children, you're going to have parents and grandparents there. You need a peaceful place to share that time with your family."

Giving back to the communities where LiUNA members live and work is an important part of the union's approach. "We're lucky as a union to be able to give back to the community," Riccardo said. "Our members work hard for their money, and with the funds we have, we like to give back."

For Riccardo, projects like Keaton's House depend on people and organizations across the community choosing to get involved.

He also believes there is something meaningful in seeing that support make a difference.

"When you give back, you see something that's helping the community," he said. "It gives you tenfold back in the good feeling of helping somebody in need."

LiUNA! Local 837's connection to Keaton's House will extend beyond its financial support.

LiUNA members are also among the skilled tradespeople helping construct the new children's hospice, giving the union another connection to the project as it takes shape.

Riccardo said some members have reflected on the difficult reality of what the building will eventually be used for. For him, that makes their role in building it even more meaningful.

"I hope nobody ever has to use this facility," he said. "But as long as it's there for the people who do need it, we're proud to be part of it."

Learn more about Keaton's House and the campaign: <https://kempcarenetwork.org/capital-campaign/>